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SANDOWN-SHANKLIN
(ISLE OF WIGHT)
URBAN DISTRICT



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Chief Public Health
Inspector

1965

Sandown-Shanklin Urban District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
1965-1966

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

D. W. QUANTRILL, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
D.R.C.O.G., D.T.M. & H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Housing Officer

Shops Inspector

Petroleum Inspector

NEVILLE L. G. TUBB, D.P.A. (Lond.), M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
(1, 2, 3 (Hons.) & 4)

Additional Public Health Inspector

J. D. HADDEN, M.A.P.H.I. (1 & 2)

1. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
2. Meat and Food Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
3. Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.
4. Certificate of Sanitary Science of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Technical Assistant—G. F. BATEMAN

Clerk—Mrs. J. F. BLOOMFIELD (resigned 30/4/65)
Miss J. A. Treble (appt. w.e.f. 26/4/65)

Rodent Operator—MR. R. COURTNEY

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1965

To the Chairman and Councillors

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1965 in accordance with the direction of the Minister of Health.

The vital statistics presented do not reveal any significant changes. The birth rate and the illegitimacy rate both continue to be above average.

Many deaths were again due to coronary disease and cerebral haemorrhage. Unfortunately these conditions are becoming more frequent in comparatively young people and as no definite reason for this has been discovered we are unable to suggest preventive measures.

It will be seen that the number of cases of infectious diseases notified was considerably less than the previous year. This was primarily due to the fact that 1965 was not a year in which measles was prevalent. Measles will, however, continue to return periodically in epidemic form, until a safe and acceptable vaccine becomes available. Information received during the year suggests that such a method of eradicating this disease is now emerging.

More dangerous diseases such as smallpox, poliomyelitis and diphtheria are fortunately well controlled by the vaccines now in regular use. It cannot be too strongly emphasised, however, that protective immunisation of all children against these diseases is still of paramount importance.

The prevention of food poisoning has continued to be one of our major tasks. No outbreak of this troublesome ailment occurred during the year and credit for this is due to food handlers generally and catering establishments in particular. Standards of food hygiene in this district compare favourably with the majority of other seaside resorts but there is still room for improvement. It is becoming more and more apparent that those whose business concerns the handling of food require a certain amount of expert knowledge, in addition

to good intentions and common sense. With this in mind arrangements were made, with the Royal Society of Health and the Island Technical College, to introduce a course of study in Food Hygiene. The initial response was not great but there was sufficient interest to indicate that the demand will increase and it is hoped that the course will in future be held annually.

Further relevant points regarding clean food are made by your Chief Public Health Inspector in the introductory letter to his section of this report. It is hoped that his enthusiasm for this aspect of his responsibilities will continue to have the increasing support of all those who have an interest in good food hygiene. The minority who do not attach sufficient importance to the Food Hygiene Regulations, should note that the magistrates have never been unduly lenient in dealing with those who fail to comply.

During the summer I was concerned with the possible health hazards resulting from itinerant camping. Many campers came to the Island, without having booked a site. On arrival many of them found that they had no proper place to camp. They then spent the night on some unauthorised site, where there were no facilities for hygiene or sanitation. No details are necessary to describe the health risks involved. This is, of course, an Island problem as well as a local one and may only be solved by the provision of municipal camping sites.

In conclusion, I again acknowledge the loyalty and enthusiasm of the staff of the department. As this was his last full year of office, I should also like to pay tribute to Mr. Willcox the retiring Town Clerk, whose advice and assistance to me and my predecessors has been greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

D. W. QUANTRILL

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS

(1) GENERAL

Number of domestic premises	...	...	...	4,447
Number of commercial and other premises	...	...	...	1,573
Rateable Value (as at 1.4.65)	...	...	...	£698,510
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1964/65)	...	...	...	£2,915

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS

1965	<i>Sunshine</i>		<i>Rainfall</i>	
	<i>Sandown</i>	<i>Shanklin</i>	<i>Sandown</i>	<i>Shanklin</i>
January	87.2	88.9	4.72	4.82
February	59.3	68.7	0.21	0.23
March	161.0	170.1	2.37	2.70
April	175.3	188.3	1.01	1.24
May	218.5	224.2	1.48	1.71
June	212.8	222.1	2.76	3.40
July	182.4	195.9	2.31	3.01
August	209.5	228.2	2.25	3.21
September	144.6	158.7	4.45	4.71
October	155.8	159.7	0.63	0.86
November	104.4	95.7	5.33	5.51
December	85.1	82.9	5.55	6.56
	<u>1795.9 hours</u>	<u>1883.4 hours</u>	<u>33.07 inches</u>	<u>37.96 inches</u>

(2) VITAL

Population (Register-General's Estimate)	...	13,740
--	-----	--------

BIRTHS	M	F	
No. of live legitimate births	82	82	164
No. of live illegitimate births	13	7	20
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	13.4
Comparative factor (births)	...	...	1.49
Comparative Birth Rate	...	...	19.9
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 England and Wales	18.4	(Prov.)	
No. of legitimate stillbirths	1	—	1
No. of illegitimate stillbirths	—	—	Nil
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths			5.4
Total live and stillbirths	...	...	185
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			10.9

DEATHS	M	F	
Total No. of deaths	93	104	197
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ... ..	...	...	14.3
Comparative factor (deaths) ... ..	...	...	0.71
Comparative Death Rate ... ..	...	...	10.2
Death Rate England and Wales ... ..	...	...	11.3 (Prov.)
Maternal Deaths (including abortion) ... ..	...	...	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths ... ..	...	...	Nil
No. of deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age	—	—	Nil
No. of deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year of age	—	2	2
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births			10.9
Death Rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	...	...	Nil
Death Rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	...	...	100
Infant Mortality Rate (England and Wales) ...			19.9 (Prov.)
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			10.9
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	...	...	10.9
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ... ..	...	...	16.2

CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSE	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis, respiratory	— (—)	— (—)
Tuberculosis, other	— (—)	— (—)
Syphilitic disease	— (—)	— (—)
Diphtheria	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough	— (—)	— (—)
Meningococcal infections	— (—)	— (—)
Acute Poliomyelitis	— (—)	— (—)
Measles	— (—)	— (—)
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	— (—)	— (—)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1 (—)	3 (2)
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	1 (8)	1 (—)
Malignant neoplasm, breast	— (—)	4 (9)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	— (—)	2 (1)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6 (8)	9 (11)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	— (—)	— (—)
Diabetes	— (—)	— (—)
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	20 (22)	27 (21)
Coronary disease, angina	34 (26)	18 (14)
Hypertension with heart disease	1 (2)	— (3)
Other heart disease	10 (13)	19 (18)
Other circulatory disease	4 (4)	6 (4)
Influenza	— (—)	— (—)
Pneumonia	3 (5)	1 (—)
Bronchitis	3 (3)	1 (2)
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1 (2)	— (—)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	— (—)	1 (—)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	— (—)	1 (—)
Nephritis and nephrosis	— (—)	— (—)
Hyperplasia of prostate	— (2)	— (—)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	— (—)	— (—)
Congenital malformations	— (—)	— (—)
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	7 (8)	8 (6)
Motor vehicle accidents	— (—)	1 (—)
All other accidents	1 (2)	2 (3)
Suicide	1 (1)	— (3)
Homicide and operations of war	— (—)	— (—)
ALL CAUSES	93 (106)	104 (97)

N.B.—Figures for 1964 are entered in brackets.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases

Disease.			Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	3	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	114	—	—
Ophthalmia					
Neonatorum	...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection			—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)			—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Non-					
Paralytic)	...	...	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	3	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis					
(Infective)	...	...	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)			1	—	—
Tuberculosis					
(Meninges & C.N.S.)			—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Other)	...	...	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	—	—	—
Total			121	—	—

Age at Date of Notification

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Whooping Cough	Poliomylitis (Paralytic)	Poliomylitis (Non-Paralytic)	Food Poisoning	Paratyphoid Fever	Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	Tuberculosis (Meninges & C.N.S.)	Tuberculosis (Other)	Dysentery
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	—	—	—	—	114	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

(a) Total number of outbreaks	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Number of cases	...	...	...	...	3
(c) Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil

Infectious and other Diseases (Schools return)

Chicken pox	...	...	...	...	...	72
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	1
German Measles	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	3
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	81
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	2
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	2

166

Tuberculosis

AGE PERIODS				New Cases				Totals	Deaths				Totals
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
				M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
0 and under	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1 „ „	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
5 „ „	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
15 „ „	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
20 „ „	25	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25 „ „	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
35 „ „	45	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
45 „ „	55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
55 „ „	65	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
65 „ „	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
75 and over		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total	...	1	2	—	—	*3	—	—	—	—	—	—	

*This total includes 2 transfers from the mainland.

Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Acts, 1944

Number of samples taken during 1965	...	...	12
Number of samples found to be T.B. positive	...	...	Nil
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	...	...	Nil

TOWN HALL

SHANKLIN, I.W.

To the Chairman and Committee

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN

I submit my thirteenth report on the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District and the work undertaken in 1965. This is again submitted as a separate section by courtesy of Dr. D. W. Quantrill, Medical Officer of Health.

For the second year this report is published as early as possible after the period under review to enhance its relevancy and thus it is hoped promote greater interest.

During the year the department took over the administration of Council housing and I was appointed Housing Officer.

As in any holiday resort, the local authority are constantly faced with the problems of providing services and amenities for a greatly increased summer population on the economic basis of its residents. This inevitably means that what can be done falls short of what the authority would like to do.

Those catering in any way for the visiting public should realise that their contribution to the prosperity of the resort and personal success in the long term must be based on their skill and in keeping up to date with changing methods, trends and processes.

The affluent society of to-day can afford more and they expect more, not only in kind but in the quality of services, comfort and amenities and will tend to go where these are assured.

Departmental experience so often shows that to achieve and maintain satisfactory standards and to succeed, it is essential to employ sufficient competent staff and for them to be given proper and knowledgeable supervision by the management.

Any tendency to regard knowledge acquired years ago, without revision and to accept obsolescent methods as being all that is required, must be resisted.

During the year Mrs. J. F. Bloomfield left the department and her place was filled by Miss J. A. Treble.

I wish to record my appreciation of the work done by Mr. Hadden, Mr. Bateman, Mrs. Bloomfield and Miss Treble and by Mr. Courtney, the Rodent Operator.

I am also grateful for the support and interest of the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee and of other members of the Council and acknowledge the co-operation of my colleagues in other departments.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

N. L. G. TUBB

Chief Public Health Inspector

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The Isle of Wight Water Board, an ad hoc authority on which this authority, as all Island authorities, are represented, is responsible for the provision and maintenance of mains water supplies throughout the Island.

During the year this authority was merged with the Isle of Wight River Board to become the Isle of Wight River and Water Authority.

The supplies for the urban district are derived from a number of sources which fall into three main sections which are interchangeable to some extent according to variations in supply and demand.

Sandown and Lake

This area is supplied from the East Yar River and Dyers Springs at Newchurch.

At Sandown Waterworks treatment comprises pre-chlorination, coagulation with alum, settlement, filtration, activated carbon treatment and post chlorination.

Shanklin

Catchment areas at Greatwoods and Cowlease constitute the main sources of supply for this ward.

Small areas on the outskirts however, receive supplies from Sandown, Chillerton and Wroxall. Water from all sources is treated.

Luccombe Village

The reservoirs above the village are supplied from St. Boniface Down after treatment and pumping. The village mains are then supplied by gravitation.

General

Reference was made in the Annual Report for 1964 to action begun under Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936 to require a property to be provided with a mains water supply, the private well supply having proved to be consistently unsatisfactory.

During 1965 the property changed hands, causing some delay, but it is now provided with a mains supply. The owner paid the maximum contribution under the Act, the local authority paying the balance.

There are now thirteen premises comprising two farms, nine cottages, and two large houses which are dependant upon private supplies.

There are also five premises connected to the mains supply where it is known that well water is used for non-domestic purposes.

The latest statistics show that there are 4,477 dwelling houses in the district (an increase of 189) and the resident population is given as 13,740.

These figures, which are constantly increasing, when quoted in relation to the provision and adequacy of water supplies take no account of the very heavy seasonal increase in population for which provision has to be made.

Classification of premises within the district is:—

Domestic premises	...	...	...	...	4,477
Commercial Premises	...	...	...	...	1,367
Entertainment and Recreational	...	...	...	...	49
Public Utility	...	...	...	...	5
Educational and Cultural	...	...	...	...	13
Industrial	...	...	...	...	19
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	117
					<hr/>
					6,047
					<hr/>

During the year 162 samples of water were taken by the Water Board and submitted for bacteriological analysis.

The results were:—

				<i>Treated</i>	<i>Untreated</i>
Satisfactory	...	...	...	139	9
Suspicious	...	...	...	3	0
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	11	0
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				153	9
				<hr/>	<hr/>

The above figures show some reduction on those for 1964 following implementation of a policy to concentrate mainly on sampling water after treatment.

No samples were taken for chemical analysis during 1965.

In addition to the above, 20 samples were taken by the department and submitted for bacteriological analysis. Of these, 11 were satisfactory, 3 suspicious and 6 unsatisfactory.

Swimming Pools

There are seven swimming pools existing in the Urban District and during the year plans for a further two have been submitted and approved.

Of these seven, four are situated in the grounds of hotels and are primarily for the use of their guests, one is at a private school, another at a primary school and the remaining one is the only one open for use by the general public.

During the year nine samples were taken from two of these pools. In the case of the public pool all were satisfactory, in regard to the primary school, the treatment was such that three suspicious results were obtained. Sampling of the private pools is not undertaken unless it is requested.

In every case except the primary school, circulation and treatment plants have been installed and it is anticipated that suitable plant will be installed at the learner pool before the 1966 season.

Sewerage and Drainage

Sewers

The entire main drainage in the urban district flows by gravitation or is pumped to the sewage works at Sandown.

After screening and sedimentation the effluent is discharged to the sea through an extended outfall at favourable states of the tide.

The sewerage system throughout the district is 'combined', receiving rainwater as well as sewage.

The renewal or duplication of some sewers, mainly to increase capacity, is something which every area has to face as it grows. There are other factors, however, in addition to the increase in the number of properties and population which accelerate and aggravate this problem, viz. the average consumption of water (for all purposes) per head of the population increases annually; trade effluents increase; the widespread use of impervious materials for paths, drives, private car parks, increases each year, thus reducing the amount of porous ground and in many cases results in the surface water finding its way into the main drainage system.

During the year preliminary work of survey etc., commenced with a view to providing main drainage for additional parts of the urban district.

The Council gave further consideration to and obtained technical advice and information concerning methods necessary to improve treatment at the Sandown works.

Drainage

(a) *Public Sewers (subject to Section 24 of the Public Health Act 1936).*

Repair and renewal was found necessary to two (Sec. 24) public sewers, serving two and six properties respectively.

In addition clearance of stoppages was effected in nine such sewers by the Council at their expense.

(b) *Private Drains*

The investigation of drainage defects and the supervision and testing of altered, repaired and renewed drains, necessitated 542 visits.

Public Cleansing

The Council provide a weekly collection service of domestic refuse throughout the district with the exception of a small number of outlying properties, which receive a fortnightly collection.

As well as the above, removal of trade refuse and additional collections from hotels, restaurants etc., during the season are arranged on a schedule and charges are made.

This additional service has only become possible by the provision of additional refuse collection vehicles and crews. Despite some views to the contrary, as everyone receives an initial collection of domestic refuse free, the cost of providing additional collections must be borne at least to some extent, by those requiring and benefiting by them.

Scavenging of streets, public walks and pleasure grounds makes a heavy demand on the service during the season. In an endeavour to maintain a satisfactory standard, despite the difficulty of obtaining sufficient manual labour, the Council have equipped all scavengers with electric trolleys with increased carrying capacity.

Caravan, Chalet and Camping Sites

(a) *Licensed Caravan Sites*

The number and capacity of licensed sites in the district remained unchanged:—

				<i>Sites</i>	<i>Vans</i>
Sandown	...	...	...	4	315
Shanklin	...	...	...	2	330
				—	—
				6	645
				==	==

During the year, with one exception, all sites which previously had been given planning approval for 20 years from 1961 applied for and were granted permanent planning permission, full compliance with the site licence conditions having been effected in each case.

During the year a planning permission and site licence for one caravan was issued for one year only.

(b) *Individual Caravans*

The misconception that one caravan can be placed in the curtilage of any property and be exempt from either Town Planning law or the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, appears to be widely held.

Whilst the law appeared to be somewhat ambiguous in this respect the Council have always endeavoured to limit and control the number and siting of such caravans in an endeavour to preserve the character and amenities of the district as a whole.

To this end the Ministry's views on the problem were sought. The opinion given, whilst not having the force of law, was to the effect that the words "dwelling house" in the exemption clause referred to a private dwelling house and would exclude hotels, guest houses and other business premises.

As the majority of such sitings are within the curtilage of premises which are engaged in "letting" the Council require application to be made for planning permission, which in most cases for the reasons given above, is refused.

(c) *Chalets*

The two chalet sites in the district provide 60 and 28 chalets respectively.

On one site the 60 chalets are separate and entirely self-contained units with all services and amenities, the other provides similar accommodation in terraced blocks with some communal facilities.

Both sites are at present restricted to occupation from March-October each year.

(d) *Tents*

There are two established sites, both in the Shanklin ward, licensed under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, both being used in the main at the height of the season.

At the end of the year planning permission was issued for a new site at Yaverland in the Sandown ward. Application is being made for a site licence and it is anticipated that the site will be ready and in use for the 1966 season.

In addition to these sites there are a number of farmers who permit exempted organisations e.g. Boys' Brigade, Boy Scouts, for short periods at high season.

Other youth organisations hire church and other halls for short term "camping" over a short period each year.

Offices and Shops

Good progress was made during the year in regard to registrations, inspections and service of notices where necessary under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

During the year a further 105 premises were registered making a total of 425 since the Act came into operation.

412 premises received their first inspection during the year and contraventions were found in 348 cases.

Notices were served and when second inspections were carried out compliance was found to have been effected in 250 cases. In all 592 inspections were carried out during the year.

As instructed by the Ministry of Labour the lighting standards of a cross section of offices and shops were investigated. A total of 147 premises were inspected and in general, standards were reasonably satisfactory.

The following table shows the position as at 31st December 1965:—

<i>Classification</i>	<i>Registered in 1965</i>	<i>Total Now Registered</i>	<i>Inspected in 1965</i>	<i>Persons Employed</i>
Offices	13	74	75	314
Retail Shops ...	52	241	216	913
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	1	5	5	27
Catering Establishments ...	39	103	114	764
Fuel Storage Depots	—	2	2	7
	105	425	412	2025

Total Males employed	710
Total Females employed	1,315
	<hr/> 2,025 <hr/>

Despite the publicity given to the Act by the Government, by Local Authorities and by Professional and Trade Organisations, there are still many failures on the part of employers.

- (1) To register if they employ any person, even if they are subsequently given exemption.
- (2) To register and give *prior* notice of intention to employ persons in new or altered premises.
- (3) To notify and re-register if the number of employees exceeds the maximum number given in the first registration.

Rodent Control

The department provide a rodent control service for all types of premises, domestic, business and agricultural.

The Council decided to discontinue the previous practice of making a small charge for treatments at domestic premises and all treatments of exclusively domestic premises are now free.

Annual contracts are available for business premises or where no contract exists charges are made on a time and material basis. During the year 114 such contracts for fees totalling £478 were in force.

No sewer baiting was undertaken during the year, exemption having been granted following no takes during the previous year's test baiting.

During the year 230 complaints were received, a slight decrease on the number received during the previous year. A total of 3,140 visits were made by the rodent operator in connection with complaints, routine inspections and treatments, 376 of these being to Council owned properties, and in addition 76 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors.

The following table shows the results of the visits made:—

Dwellinghouses (including Council houses)			Other premises (including business premises)			Agricultural		
Inspected	Infested		Inspected	Infested		Inspected	Infested	
	Rats	Mice		Rats	Mice		Rats	Mice
537	180	24	263	113	19	10	5	1

No major infestations occurred although concerted and persistent treatments were necessary, both on the Council's refuse tip and a small private tipping area. In both cases difficulty arose not from failure to control the tipping, but from difficulties in compacting the refuse sufficiently to prevent good harbourage for rodents.

The multiplicity of food supplies for rodents arising from miscellaneous litter deposited by the general public on beaches, in pleasure grounds, public walks etc., continued to present a problem requiring constant attention, particularly during the seasonal months.

Insect Pest Control

The number of complaints received in this category remained unchanged from last year.

Infestations (excluding vermin) dealt with during the year were:—

Infestations of cockroaches	...	...	...	30
Infestations of flies	...	...	...	7
Infestations of ants etc.	...	...	...	3
				—
				40
				==

The infestations of flies all occurred during a period of one week in early October when the days were warm and sunny and the nights chilly. The purchase and use by the public of aerosol insecticide reduces considerably the number of complaints received by the department.

Verminous Premises and Persons

During the year fifteen infestations were notified and treated. Thirteen of these were of fleas, one of lice and one of bed-bugs.

In nine cases of fleas domestic pets were suspected of causing the infestation, in two cases filthy conditions were the cause and in the remaining two instances no obvious cause or reason was found.

Both the case of lice and that of bed bugs concerned itinerant hotel staff.

Hairdressers and Barbers

Only three inspections under the Byelaws made under Section 77 of the Public Health Act, 1961 during the year, as all premises in this category were inspected under the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

Only two specific complaints regarding alleged noise nuisances, were received during the year.

One referred to the noise of electrical refrigeration on adjoining premises and the other to noise at a milk distribution depot.

In both cases steps were taken to remove as far as possible the cause for complaint.

As in previous years advice was given in a number of instances where the circumstances were very temporary or did not warrant action by the local authority.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Licences to keep a Pet Shop were issued under the above Act in respect of three premises, there being one new application during the year.

Two premises are primarily pet shops selling pets of all kinds, while the remaining premises are a general store selling cage birds as a subsidiary line.

Conditions found at the time of the 5 inspections made were satisfactory and no complaints were received from the public.

Talks

During the year seven talks were given to various organisations and three to senior classes of school children.

In all but one instance the talks were on food hygiene or environmental health.

Complaints

The total of 456 complaints received showed a slight decrease on the total for 1964 but the classification proportions remained almost unchanged.

The broad classifications given below do not include requests for advice, site meetings etc.

1965—*Complaints*

Sanitary Defects	...	...	...	...	42
Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements				...	57
Rodent Infestations	...	...	...	...	230
Insect Infestations (all)	...	...	...	...	55
Refuse Collection and Storage	...	...	...	...	6
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	8
Offensive Odours, accumulations etc.	...	...	...	...	27
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	3
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	2
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	3
Food Soundness	}	...	...	...	18
Food Hygiene		...	...	...
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	5
Total					456

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of
the year 1965 for the Urban District of Sandown-Shanklin
in the County of the Isle of Wight.**

*Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act 1961*

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	71	19	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	79	26	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	—	—	2	—

There are no registered outworkers in the district.

Housing

Action in respect of unfit houses incapable of repair at reasonable expense, has been confined to the demolition of a pair of semi-detached houses previously condemned and to the work of virtually rebuilding, extending and improving, four terraced houses previously closed and in respect of which an undertaking had been accepted.

A closing order in respect of a semi-basement flat was also determined following completion of the works of repair and improvement given in an undertaking.

Preliminary action was begun at the end of the year in respect of a further five houses.

During the year 5 discretionary and 22 standard improvement grants were made. In all but two cases (both discretionary) the grants were made in respect of owner-occupied premises.

The trend noticed for some years, of landlords refusing to relet tenanted properties once they obtain possession, has continued, whilst the sale of such properties to new owner-occupiers and the sale of others to "sitting tenants" increases the number of persons owning their own premises, it makes the task of those who cannot afford to buy and who seek unfurnished accommodation to rent, increasingly difficult.

These categories mainly comprise young married couples with children or the elderly. For neither of these categories are first and second floor flats over business premises, really suitable. Many such units have difficult access, lack of amenities and often have no yard or garden.

During the past year no new additional council units become available although work began at the end of the year on a further 8 one bedroom flats and 10 bed sitting room units.

By making provision of further small units, the Council hope to house applicants direct from the waiting list and in other cases transfer persons living alone or elderly couples from existing underoccupied 2 and 3 bedroom council houses. In this way some applicants from all groups on the waiting list can be suited.

The number of applicants rehoused as a result of casual vacancies occurring, was less during 1965 than for many years past. This was due to several reasons, but principally to the inability of existing tenants to obtain mortgage facilities to buy property.

Rent Act, 1957

During the year one certificate of disrepair previously granted under the Rent Act, 1957, was cancelled and one fresh application was received.

Flatlets

The number of additional premises, which were divided into separate furnished units for seasonal letting was less than in previous years.

The demand for such units, unless they are self-contained and well equipped, is limited.

In future from 1st February 1966, such conversions can be more effectively dealt with under the Public Health Act, 1961, and the new Building Regulations and thereby such sub-standard development can be controlled.

Food and Drugs Act 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

The district is largely dependent for its prosperity upon catering for visitors. It follows therefore that a high standard of hygiene in food premises of all types is of paramount importance, not only in the interests of public health, but to promote good publicity and avoid adverse publicity.

All aspects of food hygiene therefore are of major importance in the work of the department as is shown by the fact that 990 visits were made during the year, 300 of these were to hotels and guest houses, 201 to restaurants and cafes and 489 to food shops and other food premises.

As a result 45 notices were served and compliance was effected in 39 instances. In addition attention was drawn verbally to minor contraventions at the time of inspection.

In only one case was it found necessary to institute legal proceedings for serious and long standing contravention of the Regulations, at a small guest house.

Twelve complaints were laid, two were dismissed and fines totalling £85 were made in regard to the remaining 10. Costs of £15 15s. were also awarded.

Classification of Food Premises

The following table shows the broad classification of food premises under the heading of the main trade or business only. In many cases other subsidiary foodstuffs are also sold,

In accordance with Circular 1/66 the table also sets out the information required per category in relation to Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

Category	Total No. of Premises	Fitted to Comply Reg. 16	Reg. 19 Applicable	Fitted to Comply Reg. 19
Bakehouses	6	6	6	6
Ice Cream Premises ...	164	164	164	164
Fishmongers & Poulterers ...	5	5	5	5
Butchers	14	14	14	14
Dairies & Milkshops ...	23	23	23	23
Greengrocers & Fruiterers ...	22	22	18	18
Grocers & Prov. Merchants	46	46	46	46
Restaurants & Cafes ...	88	88	88	88
Kiosks	46	40	42	40
Licensed Premises (Full Licence)	42	42	42	42
Bakers & Cake Shops ...	15	15	15	15
Fried Fish Shops	7	7	7	7
Hotels & Guest Houses ...	554	554	554	554
Canteens	3	3	3	3
Clubs	3	3	3	3
Confectionery (sweets) ...	42	42	42	36
Totals	1,080	1,074	1,072	1,064

In addition to the above there are some 300/400 houses which cater intermittently at peak seasonal periods for up to 6 visitors.

It is not practicable because of shortages of time and staff to maintain effective control over this group.

Food Complaints

Of the eighteen complaints received during the year regarding food hygiene and soundness, fourteen referred to the latter. The circumstances, result and action taken, are briefly summarised as follows:—

- (1) A small tin of pork luncheon meat contained a piece of metal. Doubt arose as to the place purchased and consequently as to the identity of the supplier. The foreign producers were warned together with the United Kingdom distributors.
- (2) A piece of boned ham was alleged to contain a bandage. Investigation showed this to be the remains of a salt bag commonly used by bacon curers.

- (3) A complaint was made of "dirty residue" in a milk bottle. These were crate scuffing marks and not residue.
- (4) Fish served with a restaurant meal was alleged to be unfit. The offending fish was not available for inspection, but the remainder of the same consignment was found on examination to be wholesome.
- (5) Wrapped sliced loaves delivered to a cafe were found to be heavily moulded throughout, a few hours after delivery. Investigation showed that the bread had been wrapped while still warm. The producers were warned.
- (6) An individual apple pie was found to be slightly mouldy. This was found to be due to bad stock rotation and poor storage facilities.
- (7) Individual steak and kidney pies purchased were found to smell slightly sour. Invoices from the national supplier showed the retailer to be at fault. A warning was given.
- (8) A steak and kidney pie was found to contain a squashed fly. Whilst it appeared to have been there at the time of manufacture this could not be proved. The producers were warned.
- (9) A scone was found to be bright green on the inside. Investigation showed the colour to be a soluble non-injurious dye from the printing on wrappers of fat used by the bakery. The producers were warned.
- (10) A chocolate eclair was found to have a length of fuse wire embedded in the surface chocolate. The wire was very obvious and was almost certainly due to carelessness when fuses were repaired at the bakery the previous day.
- (11) A tin of corned beef was found on being opened to be "stained". Investigation showed that "sulphiding" was the cause and to be of little significance.
- (12) Frozen haddock fillets were found on being thawed to be slimy and decomposing. Failure by the retailer to observe proper stock rotation was found to be the reason for the condition of the fish. A warning was given.

- (13) The meat content of individual pork pies was found to be mouldy. Enquiries showed an employee of the local distributor to have mixed new and withdrawn stock together. A warning was given.
- (14) A processed loaf was found to have a metal rivet and washer embedded in its crust. This was found to be a rivet from the strapping of the tins in which the bread is baked. It was "clean" and very obvious. A warning was issued to the producer.

The policy of this authority remains unchanged and is to avoid legal prosecution unless previous warning has been given or unless there is an obvious and serious risk to public health or of injury.

The public are best served by doing everything possible to ensure that similar circumstances do not recur and by ensuring that the complainant is fully informed of the action taken by the department.

It would appear from the grateful comments made by visitors who complain that this is by no means common practice.

Food Poisoning

Only 3 cases of food poisoning were notified by general practitioners during the year. In all cases the indisposition was short lived and the interval between onset and notification too long to allow any worthwhile investigation as to the cause.

In September attention was drawn to some 80 cases of explosive vomiting. The cases occurred over a period of a few days and had no common factor other than the similarity of symptoms.

Food Inspection

The number of visits for food inspection, 79, was less than for last year (112) as was also the total weight of food-stuffs condemned.

This was largely due to the reduction in the quantity of "frozen food" voluntarily surrendered, 37lbs. as against 541lbs. last year, there being only one small refrigeration breakdown.

Once again the quantity of tinned ham condemned was unnecessarily high due to damage and holing of tins in transit. Many producers still persist in providing only cardboard cartons to protect 4 × 14lbs. tins. The use of wooden crates for such large tins would do much to reduce this unnecessary wastage of an expensive food.

The following table lists various foodstuffs inspected and condemned as being unfit for human consumption and which were voluntarily surrendered and removed for destruction:—

						<i>lbs.</i>
Tinned Meat (excluding Ham)	...	...	...	...	...	173
Tinned Ham	...	...	...	...	...	616
Tinned Fruit, Vegetables, Soups etc.	...	...	...	...	...	1,446
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	...	62
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	...	35
Preserves	...	...	...	...	...	51
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	97
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	18
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	12
Peeled Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	30
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	28
Frozen Foods	...	...	...	...	...	37
						<hr/> 2,605 <hr/>

Food and Drugs Act 1955—Section 16

The premises registered under the above Act and Section are:—

(a) Registered for the manufacture of sausages and preserved foods	...	...	...	25
(b) Registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	164
				<hr/> 189 <hr/>

During the year three new applications under (b) were received and granted.

Food and Drugs Act 1955—Samples

Samples taken by the Weights and Measures Department, Isle of Wight County Council in the Sandown-Shanklin Urban District during the year were:—

<i>Commodity sampled</i>	<i>Number of samples</i>	<i>Adulterated or otherwise irregular</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Milk	5	—	
Cream	1	—	
Drugs & Medicines	3	—	
Edible Fats	3	1	Butter served found to be mixture of butter and margarine
Ice Cream	1	—	
Meat Products	4	—	
Sausages	2	—	
Soft Drinks & Fruit Drinks	7	2	Not labelled correctly
Sugar confectionery	12		
Milk Pudding	1		
Cream Doughnut	2		
Chocolate Sponge			
Cake	1		
Custard Powder	1		
Totals	43	3	

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

	<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Keeping Quality Test Failures</i>
Designated Milk	91	37

N.B.—17 of these failures were in respect of samples taken from vending machines.

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the Isle of Wight County Council for supplying the above details of sampling undertaken in this district for which the County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority.

Milk

The Weights and Measures Department of the Isle of Wight County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority for the district, undertake all milk sampling in the area.

There are six premises registered as Dairies under the Regulations, but only four are at present so used.

There are now 20 premises in the area which sell milk in bottles as received.

There are no pasteurising plants in the district. Milk is received from the central pasteurising plant at Newport, at one large depot at Sandown and distributed throughout the urban district from there.

Ice Cream

Three premises are registered for the manufacture of ice cream. One is a small retailer producing for his own requirements, one is for production necessary for sale only from premises owned by the firm and the other is for production of ice cream and lollies to retailers throughout the Island.

Sixteen samples were taken for bacteriological analysis. Following a batch of Grade IV results, two further batches were submitted for a plate count. The first batch showed heavy contamination (non faecal) the second batch showing much lower counts (non faecal) and the three subsequent samples were all Grade I.

The investigations showed that the contamination arising was probably vegetable in origin and could have been from grass pollen and light debris of vegetable origin. Whilst such contamination will give a Grade IV result on the methylene blue test it should be remembered that it is non faecal and non pathogenic.

The national producers all have storage depots on the Island and give very good distribution service and no difficulties arose during the year.

Bakehouses

There are six bakehouses in use as such in the district.

The largest produces bread only for distribution throughout the Island. Two others produce bread and cakes throughout the year and in addition meat pies and sausage rolls during the season. One produces cakes only for their own retail points and only during the season. The remaining one produces meat pies only during the season.

Only two firms now make deliveries in the district and one of these does not produce in this area.

Licensed Premises

There are 40 premises with full licences in the district, the majority of which are open throughout the year.

There are also 6 club licences, 4 off licensed premises and 94 other premises with residential, restricted, restaurant or justices licences of various kinds.

The total number of premises licensed in the district is now 144.

Only one complaint was received during the year and this whilst justified has been rectified by works now completed and which had already been agreed at the time of complaint.

Inspection of the District

						<i>Visits</i>
<i>(a) General</i>						
Chalet, Caravan and Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	...	70
Caravans—Individual (not licensed)	...	...	...	...	...	81
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	542
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	49
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	26
Insect Pest Control	...	...	...	...	...	20
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	12
Hairdressers and Barbers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	71
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	76
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	63
Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	11
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	168
Site Meetings etc.	...	...	...	...	...	69
<i>(b) Housing</i>						
Premises inspected under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	92
Premises reinspected under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	215
Premises inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	56
Premises reinspected under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	77
Visits to premises in multiple occupation	...	...	...	...	...	11
Housing Application visits	...	...	...	...	...	100
Council Properties	...	...	...	...	...	195
<i>(c) Infectious Disease and Food Poisoning</i>						
Inquiries and Visits re infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	15
Inquiries and Visits re food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	3

(d) Food Hygiene

Visits to Hotels and Guest Houses	...	300
Visits to Restaurants, Cafes and Kiosks	...	201
Visits to Licensed Premises	... ..	22
Visits to Bakehouses	... ..	29
Visits to Butchers	... ..	67
Visits to Milk Shops and Dairies	... ..	4
Visits to Fishmongers	... ..	32
Visits to Grocers	... ..	83
Visits to Greengrocers	... ..	24
Visits to Ice Cream Premises	... ..	23
Visits to Other Food Premises	... ..	88
Visits re Food Complaints	... ..	18
Visits for Food Inspection	... ..	46
Visits for Food Disposal	... ..	33
Visits for Food Sampling	... ..	17

(e) Additional

Petroleum	... ..	79
Pet Shops	... ..	5
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	...	26
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act (by Technical Officer)	... ..	592
Shops Act (Closing Hours)	... ..	37

3,763
(f) Additional Departmental Visits to above

Visits by Rodent Operator	... ..	3,140
Visits by Rodent Operator for Insect Pest Control	... ..	172

Notices

Act	Informal		Formal	
	Served	Compiled	Served	Compiled
Public Health Acts 1936/61	67	57	6	6
Housing Acts 1957/64	4	2	—	—
Food Hygiene Regulations 1960	45	39	—	—
Clean Air Act 1956	2	3	—	—
Factories Act 1961	—	2	—	—
TOTALS	118	103	6	6

